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Esperanza C. Licad

Date

Feb 27, 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of

Covacci, A. *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/921,157

Group Art Unit: 1638

Filed : 08/02/2001

Examiner: To be assigned

For : **HELICOBACTER PYLORI PROTEINS USEFUL FOR
VACCINES AND DIAGNOSTICS**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants note that a Preliminary Amendment submitted on August 2, 2001 had requested the abstract be placed on a separate sheet.

Nevertheless, in order to comply with the regulations for the reason indicated in the Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application, Applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows:

Please insert the following abstract after page 66:

ABSTRACT

This invention provides polypeptides of *Helicobacter pylori* cytotoxin protein. The invention also provides prophylactic and therapeutic vaccines comprising the polypeptides of *Helicobacter pylori* cytotoxin protein, and methods for their preparation.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §1.16 and §1.17 which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-1664. This, however, is not authorization to pay the issue fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 27, 2002

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